

same conclusions as himself, and he thereupon offered to write some articles. M. de Rodays assented, and on November 25 — ten days after M. Mathieu Dreyfus had formally denounced Major Walsin-Esterhazy as author of the notorious *bordereau*¹ — " Le Figaro " printed a first contribution from Zola's pen, an article entitled " M. Scheurer-Kestner." On December 1 came a second, " Le Syndicat," which was followed on December 5 by a third, called " Frocks-Verbal." Those articles were temperately worded; they appealed to the reader's judgment, and protested in a sober way against all attempts to inflame the popular passions. They certainly indicated a belief in Dreyfus's innocence, and asked for full inquiry; and on that account they angered the readers of "Le Figaro/" who, being for the most part society people, sympathised with the Jew-baiters. Moreover the anti-Semitic and Nationalist prints, alarmed to find such a capable man as Zola espousing the cause of Dreyfus, at once attacked Mm savagely. He then had to withdraw from "Le Figaro/" whose director, while adhering to his personal opinion in favour of Dreyfus, was unable to withstand the clamour of his readers and shareholders.

¹ JTor the assistance of the reader who may hare forgotten the details of the Dreyfus case one may mention that this *bordereau* was a kind of covering note, giving a list of certain memoranda and documents on French army matters which the writer said he was then forwarding to the person whom he addressed. This person, it has always been assumed, was the

German military
attache in Paris. At all events it was from his lodgings or
from the German
embassy itself that the *bordereau* reached the Secret
Intelligence Department
of the French Ministry of War, then directed by Colonel
Sandherr, a strong
anti-Semite, and Major (later Colonel) Henry. The writing
of this *bor-*
dereau was attributed to Captain Alfred Dreyfus, the only
Jewish officer on
the General Staff of the Army, and he, after a summary
inquiry made by
Major (later Colonel) du Paty de Clam, was arrested on the
charge of betraying
military secrets to a foreign power. Such, briefly, was the
origin of the